

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SY-04 A-01 OPR-02 SCCT-01 CU-04

AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAM-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 SCA-01

USSH-00 FBO-06 SCSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 /101 W

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O 241830Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6370

UNCLAS ATHENS 8396

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT GR ASEC

SUBJECT: POLYTECHNION DEMONSTRATION WITHOUT INCIDENT

1. THREE-DAY COMMEMORATION OF POLYTECHNION EVENTS NOVEMBER 17, 1973
CULMINATED WITH LARGE GATHERING AT POLYTECHNION MID-AFTERNOON NOV-
EMBER

24. CROWD MAINLY YOUTH BUT ALSO CHILDREN AND OLDER
PEOPLE FORMED MARCH AND PROCEEDED TO WALK BY EMBASSY AND GREEK
MILITARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS ACROSS STREET FROM EMBASSY. MARCH
PASS EMBASSY BEGAN ABOUT 1900 HOURS AND CONTINUED UNTIL 2030.
DEMONSTRATORS PROBABLY TOTALED MORE THAN 150,000, LARGEST GATHERING
TO DATE OF THIS NATURE. ATHENS POLICE WORKING CLOSELY WITH
MINISTRIES OF PUBLIC ORDER AND DEFENSE AND UNDER GUIDANCE OF
ATHENS PUBLIC PROSECUTOR WERE COOPERATIVE AS USUAL AND PROVIDED
NECESSARY PROTECTION OF EMBASSY PROPERTIES. TOTAL POLICE BETWEEN
2,500-3,000 INCLUDING REINFORCEMENTS FROM PIRAEUS POLICE.

2. DEMONSTRATORS, WHICH APPEARED WELL ORGANIZED: CARRIED HUNDREDS
OF BANNERS AND SHOUTED SLOGANS ALONG MARCH ROUTE
FROM POLYTECHNION (DOWNTOWN) TO EMBASSY BUILDING OVER 2 MILES
AWAY. SLOGANS INCLUDED "MURDERS" "AMERICANS OUT", "NATO, CIA,
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BETRAYAL", HANDS OFF CYPRUS," "YOU KILLED OUR BROTHERS".

CROWD WAS ORDERLY DESPITE HEAVY CHANTING AND BOOING AT EMBASSY.
MANY BANNERS WERE IDENTIFIED AS "KNE",
COMMUNIST YOUTH OF GREECE, WITH EPIGRAMS "POLYTECHNION LIVES"
"IMMEDIATE PUNISHMENT TO TORTURERS AND COUP-MAKERS" ETC. MARCHERS
MANY WHO CARRIED CANDLES, APPEARED TO BE DISPERSING PEACEABLY.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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